

U.S. official says Mideast mediators are preparing for implementation of cease-fire deal in advance

By RAVI NESSMAN, ZEKE MILLER and AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — In a sign that mediators believe a Gaza cease-fire deal is imminent, a U.S. official said Friday that Mideast negotiators are working out logistics for the potential release of hostages and distribution of aid as part of any agreement to end the Israel-Hamas war. The official, who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity in keeping with rules set by the White House, said the proposal currently on the table basically bridges every gap between Israel and Hamas and mediators were making preparations before a final deal is approved. It was unclear what measures were being taken, but the official said a new "implementation cell" was being established in Cairo in advance. The cell would focus on logistics, including freeing hostages, providing humanitarian aid for Gaza and ensuring that the terms of the pact are met, the official said. The comments came hours after mediators expressed hope that a deal was within reach. They said two days of talks had wrapped up in Qatar and that they plan to reconvene in Cairo next week to seal an agreement to stop the fighting.

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Palestinian women weep on a truck as she evacuates a school that had been her shelter, in eastern Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip, Friday, Aug. 16, 2024, after the Israeli military dropped leaflets asking civilians to evacuate from the area, saying forces plan to respond to rocket fire that targeted Israel.

Associated Press

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U.S. official says Mideast mediators are preparing for implementation of cease-fire deal in advance



Britain's Foreign Secretary David Lammy, left, and French Foreign Minister Stéphane Séjourné, right, are welcomed by Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs Israel Katz, at their meeting in Jerusalem, Friday, Aug. 16, 2024.

Associated Press

Continued from Front

Israel issued a vague statement saying it appreciated the mediators' efforts, and a statement from Hamas did not sound enthusiastic about the latest proposal to end the devastating 10-month war and free Israeli hostages held in Gaza. A cease-fire is seen as the best hope for heading off an even larger regional conflict.

U.S. President Joe Biden seemed optimistic, saying, "We are closer than we've ever been" to an agreement. Biden has expressed optimism for a deal before, only for talks to break down. "We may have something," Biden told reporters Friday. "But we're not there yet." Both sides agreed in principle to the plan Biden announced on May 31. But Hamas has proposed amendments, and Israel has suggested clarifications, leading each side to accuse the other of trying to tank a deal.

The U.S. official said the latest proposal is the same as Biden's with some clarifications based on ongoing

talks. The way it's structured poses no risk to Israel's security but enhances it, the official added.

Hamas has rejected Israel's demands, which include a lasting military presence along the border with Egypt and a line bisecting Gaza where it would search Palestinians returning to their homes to root out militants. Hamas quickly cast doubt on whether an agreement was near.

In a statement, the militant group said the latest proposal diverged significantly from the previous iteration they had agreed to in principle, implying they were not disposed to accept it.

The Israeli prime minister's office issued a statement saying it "appreciates the efforts of the U.S. and the mediators to dissuade Hamas from its refusal to a hostage release deal."

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken planned to travel to Israel over the weekend to "continue intensive diplomatic efforts" toward a cease-fire and to underscore the need for all parties in the region to avoid esca-

lation, State Department spokesman Vedant Patel said.

Blinken was expected to meet with Netanyahu on Monday to discuss the new deal, said an Israeli official who spoke on the condition of anonymity in line with official requirements.

The new push for an end to the Israel-Hamas war came as the Palestinian death toll in Gaza climbed past 40,000, according to Gaza health authorities, whose counts do not distinguish between civilians and combatants. Fears were still high that Iran and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon would attack Israel in retaliation for the killings of top militant leaders.

International mediators believe the best hope for calming tensions would be a deal between Israel and Hamas to halt the fighting and secure the release of Israeli hostages.

International diplomacy to prevent the war from spreading intensified Friday, with the British and French foreign ministers making a joint trip to Israel.

Israeli Foreign Minister Israel

Katz said in a statement that he told his British and French counterparts that if Iran attacks Israel, Israel expects its allies not just to help it defend itself, but to join in attacking Iran.

He also warned Iran — which backs Hamas, Hezbollah and Houthi rebels in Yemen, all of whom have attacked Israel since the Gaza war started — to stop the attacks.

"Iran is the head of the axis of evil, and the free world must stop it now before it's too late," Katz said on X.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed across the heavily guarded border on Oct. 7, killing around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting 250 to Gaza. More than 100 were released during a weeklong cease-fire in November, and around 110 are believed to still be inside Gaza, though Israeli authorities believe around a third of them are dead.

Israel's military spokesperson, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, said Thursday that Israel had killed more than 17,000 Hamas militants in Gaza in

the war, without providing evidence.

Diplomats hoped a cease-fire deal would persuade Iran and Lebanon's Hezbollah to hold off on retaliating for the killing of a top Hezbollah commander in an Israeli airstrike in Beirut and of Hamas' top political leader in an explosion in Tehran that was widely blamed on Israel. The mediators have spent months trying to hammer out a three-phase plan in which Hamas would release the hostages in exchange for a lasting cease-fire, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and the release of Palestinians imprisoned by Israel.

While talks were ongoing, Israel continued its offensive in Gaza.

On Friday it dropped leaflets asking civilians to evacuate from areas in northern Khan Younis and eastern Deir al-Balah, saying forces plan to respond to rocket fire that targeted Israel. After the orders were given, airstrikes hit some areas of Khan Younis, sending people fleeing. A video showed plumes of black smoke rising into the air after loud booms.

Also Friday, Egypt's President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi spoke to Biden and agreed to intensify joint efforts in the coming days to reach an agreement, said a spokesman for the presidency. El-Sisi also urged regional self-restraint. In a clear message to Israel, Hezbollah released a video, with Hebrew and English subtitles, showing underground tunnels where trucks were transporting long-range missiles.

A Hezbollah official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was speaking about military affairs, said the missiles in the video have a range of about 140 kilometers (86 miles), capable of reaching deep inside Israel.

Hezbollah has tens of thousands of rockets, missiles and drones that the group says give it the ability to hit anywhere in Israel. Hezbollah started attacking Israel on Oct. 8 and says it will stop only when the Gaza war ends. □

Border arrests drop 33% to a 46-month low in July after asylum restrictions take hold

WASHINGTON (AP) — Arrests for illegally crossing the border from Mexico plummeted 33% in July to the lowest level since September 2020, a result of asylum being temporarily suspended, authorities said Friday.

The Border Patrol made 56,408 arrests last month, down from 83,536 arrests in June, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, its parent agency. Asylum was halted at the border June 5 because arrests for illegal crossings topped a threshold of 2,500 a day, though a lack of deportation flights prevents authorities from turning away everyone. U.S. authorities say arrests dropped 55% after the measure, which followed



A vehicle drives along the U.S. side of the US-Mexico border wall in Nogales, Ariz. on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

a steep decline earlier this year that was widely attributed to Mexican authorities increasing enforcement within their borders. "In July, our border security measures enhanced our ability to deliver consequences for illegal entry,"

said Troy Miller, acting CBP commissioner. The numbers, which were roughly in line with preliminary estimates, may give Democrats some breathing room on an issue that has dogged them throughout Joe Biden's presidency.

"The Biden-Harris Administration has taken effective action, and the Republicans continue to do nothing," said White House spokesman Angelo Fernández Hernández.

More than 38,000 people were admitted at land crossings through an online appointment system called CBP One, bringing the total to more than 765,000 since it was introduced in January 2023.

More than 520,000 people from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela were admitted through July under a separate policy allowing people from those four countries to apply online with a financial sponsor and arrive at an airport. Permits were recently halted amid concerns about fraud by sponsors.

"(The Department of Homeland Security) is working to restart applications processing as quickly as possible, with appropriate safeguards," CBP said in a statement.

U.S. Rep. Mark Green, Republican chair of the House Homeland Security Committee, criticized the Biden administration's new and expanded legal pathways at the border.

"This administration is orchestrating a massive shell game, encouraging otherwise-inadmissible aliens to cross at ports of entry instead of between them, thereby creating a façade of improved optics for the administration, but in reality imposing a growing burden on our communities," he said. □

San Francisco goes after websites that make AI deepfake nudes of women and girls

By **MATT O'BRIEN** and **HALE-LUYA HADERO** undefined

Nearly a year after AI-generated nude images of high school girls upended a community in southern Spain, a juvenile court this summer sentenced 15 of their classmates to a year of probation.

But the artificial intelligence tool used to create the harmful deepfakes is still easily accessible on the internet, promising to "undress any photo" uploaded to the website within seconds.

Now a new effort to shut down the app and others like it is being pursued in California, where San Francisco this week filed a first-of-its-kind lawsuit that experts say could set a precedent but will also face many hurdles.

"The proliferation of these images has exploited a shocking number of women and girls across the globe," said David Chiu, the elected city attorney of San Francisco who brought the case against a group of widely visited websites based in Estonia, Serbia,



San Francisco City Attorney David Chiu speaks at a public safety town hall meeting in San Francisco on Sept. 18, 2023.

Associated Press

the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

"These images are used to bully, humiliate and threaten women and girls," he said in an interview with The Associated Press. "And the impact on the victims has been devastating on their

reputation, mental health, loss of autonomy, and in some instances, causing some to become suicidal." The lawsuit brought on behalf of the people of California alleges that the services broke numerous state laws against fraudulent

business practices, non-consensual pornography and the sexual abuse of children. But it can be hard to determine who runs the apps, which are unavailable in phone app stores but still easily found on the internet.

Contacted late last year by the AP, one service claimed by email that its "CEO is based and moves throughout the USA" but declined to provide any evidence or answer other questions. The AP is not naming the specific apps being sued in order to not promote them.

"There are a number of sites where we don't know at this moment exactly who these operators are and where they're operating from, but we have investigative tools and subpoena authority to dig into that," Chiu said.

"And we will certainly utilize our powers in the course of this litigation."

Many of the tools are being used to create realistic fakes that "nudify" photos of clothed adult women, including celebrities, without their consent. But they've also popped up in schools around the world, from Australia to Beverly Hills in California, typically with boys creating the images of female classmates that then circulate widely through social media. □

Subpoenas issued to New York Mayor Eric Adams, City Hall and campaign in federal probe of 2021 run

By PHILIP MARCELO and JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Federal prosecutors recently issued subpoenas to Mayor Eric Adams, his campaign arm and City Hall in a probe into the Democrat's 2021 run, a new escalation in the ongoing investigation. City Hall confirmed Thursday night that the administration received a subpoena in July, and attorneys representing the mayor and his campaign said in a statement that they were "in the process of responding" to subpoenas. "We have not identified any evidence of illegal conduct by the mayor," added the attorneys, Boyd Johnson and Brendan McGuire. The subpoenas requested information about the mayor's schedule, his overseas travel and potential connections to the Turkish government, according to a person with knowledge of the subpoenas. The person could not publicly discuss details of the investigation and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. But the full scope of the investigation remains unclear, as does its time frame. City Hall lawyer Lisa Zornberg said Friday that she didn't know of anyone



In this image released by Office of the New York Mayor, New York Mayor Eric Adams, right, is greeted as he visits the Turkish Consulate General building, background, after it was vandalized in New York, May 22, 2023. Others are unidentified.

Associated Press

testifying before a grand jury in the matter. Adams, a retired police captain, said Friday that he had done nothing wrong and reiterated that he and his team are cooperating with the inquiry. "I complied with the rules of the city and state of New York and our federal rules," he said at a City Hall news conference about a new tentative contract for probation officers. Boyd and Johnson said in their statement that they

had given federal prosecutors "extensive evidence undermining the reported theories of federal prosecution as to the mayor." The FBI and federal prosecutors declined to comment. The subpoenas, first reported by The New York Times, are the latest development in a probe that has cast a cloud over the leader of America's most populous city. The investigation surfaced publicly in November,

when Adams' phones and electronic tablet were seized and agents raided the home of a top fundraiser. The news of the federal subpoenas comes days before Adams is set to attend next week's Democratic National Convention. Prosecutors have been mum about the investigation, but The Times reported in November that it had obtained a search warrant indicating that investigators were eyeing, among other things, whether the Adams

campaign conspired with the Turkish government to receive donations from foreign sources, funneled through straw donors. The newspaper said the search warrant also requested information about Adams' use of New York City's matching funds program, which provides candidates with an eightfold match of a city resident's first donations. Adams has said he had "no knowledge, direct or otherwise, of any improper fundraising activity." Neither City Hall nor the mayor's attorneys would say more about the subpoenas, including what they seek.

The Times and other news outlets have reported that the investigation also is examining whether Adams while in a different city office inappropriately tried to help the Turkish government get city approval to open a Manhattan building housing diplomatic facilities in 2021, despite concerns about the skyscraper's fire safety systems. Adams was then Brooklyn's borough president, an official with limited power over city government. But he was the Democratic nominee for mayor and widely expected to win. □

Federal court strikes down Missouri investment rule targeted at 'woke politics'



Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft speaks to reporters on June 29, 2022, at his Capitol office in Jefferson City, Mo.

Associated Press

By DAVID A. LIEB
Associated Press
JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP)

— A federal judge has struck down Missouri investment regulations that Republican Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft had touted as way to expose financial institutions that "put woke politics ahead of investment returns." The Missouri regulations, issued by Ashcroft's office, infringed on the free speech rights of investment professionals and are preempted by federal law, the court ruling said. The state's most prominent business group on Fri-

day praised the ruling as a triumph for free enterprise. The regulations "would have placed an unnecessary burden on investment firms small and large doing business here in Missouri," said Kara Corches, interim president and CEO of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Ashcroft, whose office enforces state securities laws, issued rules in 2023 requiring investment professionals to get written consent from customers before incorporating "a social objective or other nonfinancial objective" into decisions

about buying and selling securities. Ashcroft said he wanted to make people aware of investment firms using environmental, social and governance principals. When Ashcroft subsequently announced his candidacy for governor in April 2023, he touted his efforts to require banks and financial advisors "to disclose to their clients when they make ESG investments that put woke politics ahead of investment returns." Ashcroft finished third in the Aug. 6 Republican gubernatorial primary. □

Settler rampage in West Bank sparks rare condemnation from Israeli leaders

By JULIA FRANKEL and
AREF TUFAHA

Associated Press

JIT, West Bank (AP) — Israeli leaders on Friday roundly condemned a deadly settler rampage in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, a rare Israeli denunciation of the settler violence growing more common since the start of the Israel-Hamas war.

The settler riot in the village of Jit, near the city of Nablus in the northern West Bank, killed one Palestinian and badly injured others late Thursday, Palestinian health officials said.

Residents interviewed by The Associated Press said at least a hundred masked settlers entered the village, shot live ammunition at Palestinians, burned homes and cars and damaged water tankers. Video showed flames engulfing the small village, which residents said was left to defend itself without military help for two hours.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he took the riots "seriously" and that Israelis who carried out criminal acts would be prosecuted. He issued what appeared to be a call for settlers to stand down.

"Those who fight terrorism are the IDF and the security forces, and no one else," he said, using an acronym for the Israeli military.

President Isaac Herzog also condemned the attack, as did Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, who said the set-



A Palestinian films a torched vehicle, seen the morning after a rampage by Israeli settlers in the West Bank village of Jit, Friday, Aug. 16, 2024.

tlers had "attacked innocent people." He added they did not "represent the values" of settler communities.

The Palestinians seek the West Bank, which Israel captured in the 1967 Mid-east war, as the heartland of a future state, a position with wide international backing.

Rights groups say that arrests for settler violence are rare, and prosecutions even rarer. Israel's left-leaning Haaretz newspaper reported in 2022 that based on statistics from the Israeli police, charges were pressed in only 3.8% of cases of settler violence, with most cases being opened and closed without any ac-

tion being taken.

It was unclear why the Jit attack yielded such a strong rebuke from Israeli leaders. A similar settler riot in the village of Al-Mughayyir in April went without comparable mention from the authorities. The Jit attack comes as Israel is under heightened international scrutiny over its role in cease-fire talks with American, Qatari and Egyptian mediators in Doha, yet another attempt to broker an end to the 10-month-old war.

The French foreign minister and the British foreign secretary were also in Israel on Friday for meetings with diplomatic officials, and both condemned the

attack. The EU's foreign policy chief, Josep Borell, said he would propose EU sanctions against "violent settlers' enablers, including some Israeli government's members."

The U.S. has broadly condemned settler violence and the expansion of Israel's West Bank settlements. U.S. Ambassador Jack Lew wrote on the social media platform X on Friday that he was "appalled" by the attack, and the White House National Security Council called violent settler attacks "unacceptable."

"Israeli authorities must take measures to protect all communities from harm, this includes intervening to stop such violence, and

holding all perpetrators of such violence to account," it said in a statement.

Other Israeli officials distinguished between the settler attack on Jit and the larger Israeli settlement project, which the international community views as illegal under international law.

Far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich an ultra-nationalist settler who has turbocharged settlement expansion, railed against U.S. sanctions on violent settlers and previously defended violent settlers as heroes labeled the rioters "criminals" who were "in no way related to the settlement and the settlers."

"We are building and developing settlements in a legal and official manner," Smotrich wrote on X, adding that he "reject(s) any expression of anarchist criminal violence that has nothing to do with love for the land and the desire to settle in it."

Ultra-orthodox Israeli Interior Minister Moshe Arbel called on Israel's Shin Bet internal security agency to investigate those involved and said the riot ran against Jewish values and harmed the "settlement enterprise." Since the Israel-Hamas war began on Oct. 7, violence has flared in the occupied territory. Palestinian health officials say 633 Palestinians, including 147 children and teenagers, have been killed by Israeli fire and over 5,400 injured. □

Associated Press

Rail bridge collapses on U.S.-Canada border

FORT FRANCES, Ont. (AP) — A century-old rail lift bridge that crosses the U.S.-Canada border near the cities of International Falls, Minnesota, and Fort Frances, Ontario, has collapsed, and it's unclear when the area will reopen to water traffic along the Rainy River.

No trains were involved, and no one was injured in Wednesday's collapse, according to the Minneapolis Star Tribune. The cause is under investigation.

Some "biodegradable, non-toxic hydraulic oil" was released, but environmental crews have contained it and are working to recover the fluid, the Canadian National Railway said.

Crews have begun repairs to the structure, which was built in 1908. It's known as the Rainy River Rail Lift Bridge and the 5 Mile Bridge, and swings up to let traffic through on the river that forms the international border as it runs from Lake of the Woods to Rainy Lake. □



The Rainy River Rail Lift Bridge, also known as the 5 Mile Bridge, collapsed Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024, near Fort Frances, Ontario, close to the U.S.-Canada border and Minnesota.

Associated Press

Mexico's truth commission reveals new evidence of 'death flights' during 1965-1990 'dirty war'

By **MARÍA VERZA**

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — More evidence has emerged that Mexican authorities disposed of the bodies of dissidents in "death flights" during the country's 1965-1990 "dirty war."

Mexico's governmental Truth Commission said in a report Friday that recollections by witnesses and documents leaked over the years described the chilling last moments of the victims. The executions were part of an effort by the Mexican government at the time to eliminate leftist social and guerrilla movements.

The victims, who have not been identified or counted, were pulled one by one to a bench at a military airfield near Acapulco. They believed they were going to have their photographs taken, but were instead shot in the back of the head, and their bodies dumped by plane out in the Pacific ocean.

According to testimony by Gustavo Tarín, who served in a military police unit at the time, the same pistol was used so often in the killings that soldiers came up with a nickname for it: "the sword of justice."

Tarín said that as many as 1,500 people may have



A visitor looks at an exhibit during the inauguration of a memorial to victims of Mexico's "dirty war" at the former Federal Security headquarters where student protesters were taken in 1971 following a violent crackdown in Mexico City, June 10, 2019.

been killed that way, though he provided no lists nor names of the victims. Some of the victims may have been dying, but not yet dead, when they were pushed out of the planes. Military aviation mechanic Margarito Monroy said he participated in 15 of the flights, and that female victims were sometimes offered release, or the release of their husbands, if they had sex with soldiers, though he never saw any

of them released.

The truth commission located log books for about 30 flights by one plane from the base between 1975 and 1979. And in a two-decade-old witness statement from a man who claimed to be an armed forces deserter, another 25 flights by another plane are mentioned.

That statement, which had long been held in the archives of a now-deceased rights activist, included a list

of 183 names of likely victims on the "death flights." Several of those names match people who disappeared during the government counter-insurgency campaign.

Unlike the better-known case of the "death flights" carried out by Argentina's 1976-1983 military dictatorship, little is known about the ones carried out by Mexico, mainly in the 1970s, from a small airbase at Pie de la Cuesta, just west of

Acapulco.

During a 2012-2017 trial, survivors in Argentina testified that the flights took place at least weekly.

The Argentine trial, at which 29 former officials were sentenced to life in prison, proved that the Argentine dictatorship used "death flights" as a systematic mode of extermination.

Argentina's junta is widely considered the most deadly of the military dictatorships that ruled much of Latin America in the 1970s and 1980s. Human rights groups estimate 30,000 were killed, many of whom disappeared without a trace.

In Mexico, the less-widespread executions appeared to target small rural guerrilla movements in Guerrero state, where Acapulco is located. But a broad range of people were apparently swept up in the killings.

The Mexican executions appeared a bit more rudimentary and less well-planned: fishermen in the area recalled seeing bodies wash up on shore, after which the military allegedly began placing them in sacks weighted down with rocks before tossing them into the ocean. □

Associated Press

Philippines says China was 'dramatically' alarmed over U.S. missile system deployed to its north



In this photo provided by the Philippine Coast Guard, a Chinese Coast Guard ship, right, uses its water cannons on a Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) vessel, as it approaches Scarborough Shoal in the disputed South China Sea, Dec. 9, 2023.

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — China expressed its "very dramatic" alarm over a mid-range missile system that the U.S. military recently deployed to the Philippines, and warned it could destabilize the region. But Manila's top diplomat said Friday he reassured his Chinese counterpart that the weaponry was only in the country temporarily. Philippine Foreign Secretary Enrique Manalo said his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, expressed China's concern over the U.S. mid-range missile deployment to the Philippines during their talks last month in Laos on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations meetings with Asian and Western countries.

"We discussed it and, well, they made it very dramatic," Manalo said in response to questions during a news conference with foreign correspondents in Manila. "I said you shouldn't be worried."

Pressed to specify what China's specific concerns were, Manalo said Wang warned the presence of the U.S. missile system could be "destabilizing," but the Philippine foreign affairs chief said he disagreed. "They're not destabilizing" and the missile system was only in the Philippines temporarily, Manalo said he told Wang.

The U.S. Army said in April it transported the mid-range missile system, a land-based weapon that can fire the Standard Missile-6 and the Tomahawk Land Attack Missile, from the U.S. to the northern Philippines as part of combat exercises with Philippine troops. □

Did you know about... Basic driving rules on Aruba (part 2)

(Oranjestad)—In Yesterday's issue, we've provided some basic rules when driving on the four-lane highways and roundabouts on the island. Today, we want to offer you more tips and tricks when it comes to driving on the roads and highways of Aruba.

Speed limit in certain areas

As mentioned in yesterday's issue, the legal minimum and maximum speed limit on the island is 50 and 80 km/h respectively. However, there are some areas where it is mandated to drive up to a certain speed. This is always indicated by a circular traffic sign with red border and the number 50 on it. Signs like these are always paired

by a similar sign with the number crossed out further down the road. This means that the mandate for this speed is now over; you may increase your velocity. Red borders on traffic sign—whether it's a circle or triangle—usually signal a warning, prohibition or preference.

Besides the "50" sign, you may also

encounter a traffic sign that says "bebouwde kom". These can be found in San Nicolas and Oranjestad. Bebouwde kom signs are rectangular and blue, and essentially tell you that you are in a heavily inhabited area. The maximum speed limit in a bebouwde kom is 50 km/h. Just like the previous pair, bebouwde kom signs are also paired with a similar sign crossed out.

Priority signs

On the main roads of Aruba (not the highways), you may see a yellow, squared sign with a white border. This sign tells you that on this road, you have priority and all other traffic should yield to you. This sign can be seen in Savaneta for example. So, if you are driving on the main road in Savaneta going to San Nicolas, you are driving on a single long road, and other cars that want to get on this main road or cross it, either from an intersection or from a dirt road, must all wait until traffic on the main road is clear. In other words, you do not have to stop for them. This sign too has a counter part that indicates that your priority is over.

Another priority sign you may encounter is a triangle sign with a red border and something that looks like a cross. You'll see this sign in an intersection. The general rule of thumb for crossing an intersection that do not contain traffic lights, roundabouts, sign or arrows on the road, is to always yield for traffic on your right. However, if you encounter this sign on your side of the intersection, you have priority over the other cars, even the one on your right.

However, be careful not to confuse this sign with a similar up-side down triangle, also found on intersections. This sign is a prohibition sign, telling you that you have to stop and give other cars priority. Of course you also have a "stop" sign that mean the same thing. The stop sign is generally used for tricky intersections with minimal view of opposite incoming traffic.

These are some of the basic rules that you would have to know if you decide to drive on the island. These are of course other traffic signs, and we recommend you visit aruba-travelguide.com for an extensive overview of all traffic signs used on Aruba. □

Picture credits: aruba-travelguide.com



bebouwde kom



end bebouwde kom



end priority



end speed limit



intersection priority



priority



speed limit



stop sign



triangle stop sign

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Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins

According to Etnia Nativa, in the 18th century most of the inhabitants of Aruba were indigenous who lived on the north coast, one of the largest communities lived in Alto Vista.

As they were very religious, they had a chief with the name of Antonio Silvester who guided them in the Christian life and it was he who decided to build a stone chapel with a roof of corn rods, which would serve as a place of prayer. In 1750 it was blessed by Father Algemesi who came from Coro-Venezuela and appointed Domingo Antonio Silvester as the island's first prosecutor in the name of the Spanish crown and Rome. In 1752 the prosecution passed into the hands of Antonio Silvester's son-in-law, Miguel Álvarez, who continued to guide the parishioners in their prayers.

According to the book, The History of Alto Vista by R.H. Nooyen, it is not known when Domingo Antonio

Silvester came to Aruba from Venezuela. The elders believe Antonio was a Spaniard. In 1780, father Joseph Antonio de la Vegal called Bernardino Silvester, one of Antonio's sons with his wife Anna Cathalina Tromp, "neighbors and naturals of the island Aruba" and thus they became natives.

At the end of the eighteen century many inhabitants the island died as a result of the black fever epidemic and since people believed that the Alto Vista area was the most infected, they began to build their homes further south within the Noord area, so the town of Noord began to grow into a community till getting its own Church. However religious festivals continued to be celebrated at this sacred native place, with the custom of arriving in procession to Alto Vista.

Two-hundred years after the beautiful time of Alto Vista, people can no

longer see much of the town of Alto Vista from 1750. With a lot of work they found the old foundations of the Church of the Queen of the Holiest Rosary to build a new chapel on the same place. The entire surrounding area was empty and desolated, making it hard to imagine that Alto Vista was a town at all. A hundred years later, people can see the remains of around twenty houses, some made of stone and others of clay. Nowadays, only around six of these houses remain.

South of the chapel in the yard two graves can be observed, there was the cemetery which father Pablo de Algemesi blessed. It is not certain, but it is believed that the two graves belong to Antonio Silvester and Miguel Alvares, according to Nooyen. About 50 meters near the chapel there are still the markings of an old house, where Antonio and Bernardino Silvester would have lived. About 200



meters from the chapel there is a water tank which the locals call Tanki Cacique. In the past this tank was closed. But mostly water was brought out from the Poz di Noord, a well dug in the sand.

The chapel can be viewed from basically any point in the north side, even from Paradera and Sero Plat. All the historical remains around the chapel provide us with an idea on how the old people of Alto Vista used to live. Don't miss the opportunity to visit a place of historical significance with a window to Aruba's past. □

Aruba Tourism Authority honored a loyal visitor at Marriott Aruba Surf Club!



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing a Distinguished Visitor

of Aruba. The honoree was respectfully honored with a certificate for her years of visits, loyalty, and love

for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honoree was:

Distinguished Visitor
Ms. Heather Krause from Williams-ville New York, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing

the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Marriott Aruba Surf Club bestowed the certificate upon the honoree, presented her with gifts, and thanked her for choosing Aruba as her favorite vacation destination, as her home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honoree was:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba's beaches.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- "The lazy river"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honoree for her continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Divi Dutch Village!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Emerald Ambassadors
Mr. Vincent & Mrs. Davee Lifrieri from Ronkonkoma New York, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Divi Dutch Village bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba is very safe.
- Aruba's weather & beaches.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- "Family of repeat time share owners"



On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation

to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □

Blackstone Beach

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered in black smooth

stones. Secondly, it lies on the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.



Blackstone Beach shows the more natural side of Aruba: the stones that cover the beaches and the shape of it has been crafted for thousand years via volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island.

Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock Formation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach.

This beach forms part of the



Arikok National Park and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. Despite being called a beach, do note that it is not advised to swim in the water, as the current is very strong

and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family! □

Aruba's Bocas: home to the rarest fossil reefs on the planet!

(Oranjestad)—If you've been to the northern coast of Aruba already, you've probably noticed how the ground differs entirely from the sandy beaches on the southern part of the island. These hard surfaces, with sharp bumps and holes are actually fossilized coral reefs, of which its growth and changes can be traced back to the last glacial period.



On May 30 2023, geoscientists, Dr. Patrick Boyden from the Marum research faculty at the University of Bremen, Prof. dr. Alessio Rovere from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Prof. dr. Gianfranco Scicchitano,

from the University of Bari Aldo Moro, presented their research on these fossilized coral reefs at the University of Aruba. Their focus for their research included studying the health and formation patterns of these coral reefs, and to investigate how these reefs have responded

and can respond to fluctuating sea levels or extreme weather, like hurricanes and tsunamis.

Through underwater and land surveillance, and 3D models of the reefs, they were able to narrow down when these formations start-

ed to take place. They were also able to track the fluctuation of sea levels during the past hundred or even thousands of years, and the effects that this fluctuation has had on the coral reefs of the windward side of Aruba.

These findings can certainly put things into perspective. The ground on which we have walked many times in the northern part of the island hold such rich history, history that dates back to a time that most of us cannot even imagine. As the scientists themselves have pointed out, these fossilized reefs on the windward side are truly an incredible and

rare remnant of geological history, as they provide a clear view of how these reefs have formed.

This research is also important for the future of coral reefs on the island. By studying rising sea levels and climate impact on these coral reefs, we are able to take concrete action in protecting and preserving our coral reefs. So, if you are ever visiting one of the bocas or driving along the northern part of the island, please be conscious to help protect our natural historical remnant. Oh, and wear (coral-friendly) sunscreen! ☐

Episode CXLVI - 146 Aruba's medicinal plants

Our goal at Etnia Nativa is to raise cultural awareness, promoting education and to safeguard our heritage as the sacred mother seed for renewal and reinvention, guiding you to become the next and a new guardian of Aruba.

Trough thousands of years cultures of the ancient world experimented with the healing power of plants. Regaining ones vital powers and health whas essential for any groups survival. Plants where considered the main source from where to extract healing powers due to their chemical compositions contained in leaves, flowers, stem or root, fruits and saps. Through different preparation methods, they could

prepair different potions which in many cases still are being applied to treat various ailments. This could be of a simple headache to more serious ailments.

Today we see that medicinal plants and ancient knowledge are an intricate part of pharmaceutical research, whether it is for the benefit of man kind or the contrary.

The use of plants for medicine dates back to ancient times and civilizations. Evidence of the used of medicinal herbs in Egypt dates back to around 1550 BC, as did the Greeks in the 16th century BC. Healing plannts were also common during the Middle Ages. In the 19th and 20th centuries, folk knowledge of medicinal plants where passed from generation to generation, attributing the practice mainly women healers, who applying plans and herbs to treat common diseases and ailments.

For an infusion, the active ingredients of the plant are dissolved in water by boiling it in to a drink. If it need to be applied to an external affected area, the part of the plant that con-

tains the healing properties is crushed and applied. A direct way to ingest certain medicinal herbs is to eat them, for example, in a salad, like a tea or mixed into a syrups or honey. Plants can also be mashed in to a mortar mixed with oils of certain seeds in order to be aplied on wounds or skin deseses. In our case acient Aruban cultures have also applied a wide variety of medicinal plants to treat their ilneses.

Following I wil share some of the most comon plant that an native aruban will use with out any hasitation when for example sor throat is thretening or as and agent against the poisonous nature of the stinging hairs of Jatropha urens or Bringa mosa* (* Papiamentu).

For a sore throat local people will go in to the country side to look for Roots of The Seida* Jatropha gossypifolia. This is cleaned and boiled in to gargela potion, allowed to cool and gargled with excellent results and quickly relieves the uncomfortable sore throat.

Another plant that is often used for asthma is Datura



metel, commonly known in our Papiamentu language as "Yerba stinky*". Oddly enough, but popular history tells that the leaves of this plant are smoked to cleanse the lungs.

If you love Aruba its origins and its cultural heritage, be part of the exclusive visitors of this cozy home-atelier called "Etnia Nativa". This

private residential houses collections of native art, archaeological artifacts and historic furniture, while the facilities themselves are the result of the transformation of recycled materials. Meet the acclaimed columnist at home! Book your visit Whatsapp + 297 592 2702- or mail: etniana-tiva03@gmail.com. ☐





Article by: Etnia Nativa
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Meet our Aruban trailblazers: Padu Lampe

(Oranjestad)—This week we remember one of our most beloved Aruban giant, Juan Chabaya Lampe—better known as Padu Lampe or Padu del Caribe. As one of the most important and renowned artists in the Aruban cultural sphere, Padu's long career led him to be honored today as "the father of culture."

On April 26th, 1920, Juan Chabaya Lampe "Padu Lampe/Padu del Caribe" was born in Nassastraat, Oranjestad. He grew up in a happy musical environment, and it is because of this that he developed a love for music. Starting from the age of 12, he was agile in the clarinet, mandolin and cuatro. Henry Lampe, his father, was also a well-known pianist and musician.

In a publication of the informative seminar, "Observer", from August 1st, 1962, Padu's many merits and friendly personality stood out. It was said that he was an excellent pianist with a personal style and full of surprises. Secondly, though the composer was not too familiar with music theory,



he showed innovations in his compositions. Lastly, Padu was a promoter of Creole music around the world.

One of the most important moments in Aruban history, in which he was able to wit-



ness first-hand, was the first radio broadcast on the island on March 20th, 1954. Here, he was accompanied by Antillean guitarist Julian Coco and Hubert "Loi" Booi.

In the art world, Padu was also a known painter. During his youth, he made several paintings using his unique style. In 1939, he participated in an art exhibit in New York, where he won a bronze medal for his painting "Typical View of Aruba."

Padu remained a popular artist within the Dutch Antilles and the Caribbean as a pianist, singer, author and painter. Padu Lampe was a local artist who became renowned in Venezuela, Colombia, The U.S. and The Netherlands too. In the 1950s, he sold no less than 50 thousand copies of his long-playing albums (LPs). Padu Lampe was a multi-faceted artist, inspired by his interest in parapsychology and supernatural phenomenon. He wrote three books in Papiamentu on the subject in 1986, which was published by the Aruban National Printing Press with sponsorship provided



by the Prince Bernhard Funds Netherlands Antilles. Besides that, Padu passed his exam on "Society to Advanced Ethical Hypnosis" in 1964 in New Jersey. He received a certificate as a hypnotechnician, which gave him the authority to practice hypnosis in some states.

Over the course of his career, he received many accolades and awards in Aruba, Curacao, Venezuela and the Netherlands. Padu del Caribe passed away on November 29th, 2019, at the age of 99 years old. Padu brought the Aruban culture around the world. His legacy will remain ingrained in the Aruban cultural history, and he will be known forever as one of the most influential trailblazers of our commu-

nity.

Padu will always be in Aruba's heart, because he had composed various special songs dedicated to the mothers of the island; his song "Sonrisa di un baby" ("A baby's Smile") has been written in three different languages. Padu also wrote our national anthem "Aruba Dushi Tera", along with Mr. Rufo Wever. This song was approved by the government of Aruba and was named the official anthem of the island in 1976.

Other songs that have been considered as being almost a second anthem for Arubans is the special composition he wrote for his wife Daisy Croes called "Abo so". Daisy later passed away in 1994. □



(Oranjestad)—The cah'i orgel music box is an important and unique instrument that is used on the ABC islands in the Dutch Caribbean. This instrument is a staple in our folklore music, and its significance in the traditions of Aruba has and

Ever heard of the cah'i orgel? A key instrument in Aruban folklore music

continues to bring together the old and young.

The origin of the cah'i orgel is said to have come from Europe around 150 years ago. A cross breed between the barrel piano and the organ, the most popular stories said that the instrument came from either England or Germany, but made its way to Italy down to Venezuela, where in 1881, Mr. Horatio Sprock (1866-1949) from Curacao was first introduced to it. After that, Sprock made his own cah'i orgel "Josefina", and successfully debuted it on the streets of Barquisimeto. Back in Curacao, he started his own cah'i orgel business along with his brother Luis. In Aruba, it is said that the cah'i orgel was introduced by Rufo Wever, who later in his career became one of the composers for the Aruban national anthem.

Rufo Wever was a young musician in 1937 when he established his own cah'i orgel business on the island. Before that he experimented with his uncle's cah'i orgel, and he over the years he learned to build and repair the instrument. In fact, he was incredibly skilled in this, and he

was one of the few to have recognized from the start that the cah'i orgel is an instrument that needs preserving.

As mentioned, the cah'i orgel is a music box. made from mahogany wood, it contains a cylinder with a maximum of eight music pieces. By rotating the lever on the front side of the box, the cah'i orgel produces music similar to that of a piano, and is accompanied often by someone else playing the "wiri", a percussion instrument made out of steel and reminiscent to the Spanish guiro. Back then, you would often also find someone playing the triangle alongside the cah'i orgel and wiri. In Aruba, the cah'i orgel and wiri is used for traditional music genres, such as the Aruban waltz, tumba, mazurka and more. □

Fun fact: another name for the cah'i orgel is the "tingilingi box."

Source: "E Cilinder Magico entre Aruba y Curaçao" by Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé, Herta Parabirsing-Balentina and Nidia Rosaria-Wallé.

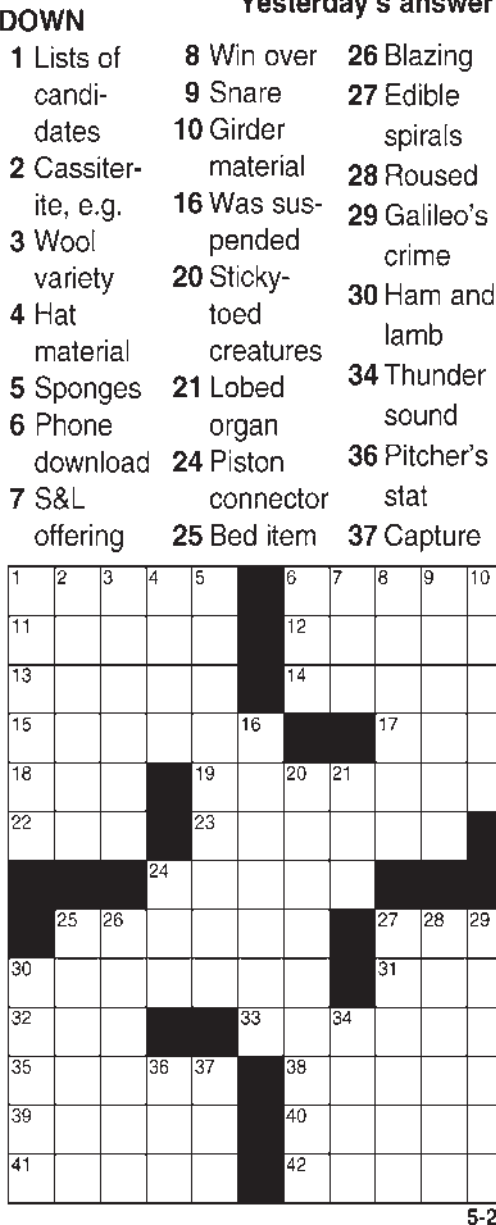
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 39 Baseball manager Joe
- 1 Work group
- 6 White House workers
- 11 Cruise ship
- 12 Computer command
- 13 Trig topic
- 14 Cut's counterpart
- 15 Honked
- 17 "— we there yet?"
- 18 Do the wrong thing
- 19 Sideways
- 22 Squid's home
- 23 Cloverleaf part
- 24 Wild party
- 25 Curly-coated dog
- 27 Fan sound
- 30 Way of thinking
- 31 Need to pay
- 32 Pole worker
- 33 Clinic worker
- 35 Visitor from afar
- 38 Similar
- DOWN**
- 40 "Hamlet" extras
- 41 Work byproduct
- 42 Like cacti
- 1 Lists of candidates
- 2 Cassiterite, e.g.
- 3 Wool variety
- 4 Hat material
- 5 Sponges
- 6 Phone download
- 7 S&L offering
- 8 Win over
- 9 Snare
- 10 Girder material
- 16 Was suspended
- 20 Sticky-toed creatures
- 21 Lobed organ
- 24 Piston connector
- 25 Bed item
- 26 Blazing
- 27 Edible spirals
- 28 Roused
- 29 Galileo's crime
- 30 Ham and lamb
- 34 Thunder sound
- 36 Pitcher's stat
- 37 Capture

TOWEL HOSTS
ADELE INTRO
BEAST SERIF
KISS LOOT
RACE IRAN
ACH SPONGES
SHALL PESCI
HEROINE TON
ACME HONK
PICK TRIM
ANTIS AVAIL
SCENE MECCA
SARGE ASHES

Yesterday's answer



5-25

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-25

CRYPTOQUOTE

H AUY'V RLMD LYS CLA
RLCHVZ. VRDS FHWRV CD CLA
RLCHVZ BUK UVRDK JDUJQD,
CTV VRDS'KD LQQ KHWRV BUK
FD. — DTCHD CQLID

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THERE'S NO GREATER GIFT THAN THINKING THAT YOU HAD SOME IMPACT ON THE WORLD, FOR THE BETTER. — GLORIA STEINEM

Cruise ship Schedule: August 6 - 27 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	06	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL HORIZON CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	08.00 09.00 13.00	20.00 22.00 23.00	B C I	1 1 1
WED	07	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	13	CELEBRITY BEYOND CARNIVAL CELEBRATION CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00 08.00 13.00	21.00 22.00 23.00	B C I	1 1 1
THU	14	ENCHANTED PRINCESS	08.00	18.00	C	1
WED	20	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
WED	27	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7

TikTok compares itself to foreign-owned American news outlets as it fights forced sale or ban



A TikTok sign is displayed on their building in Culver City, Calif., March 11, 2024.

Associated Press

By HAEUYA HADERO
AP Business Writer

TikTok on Thursday pushed back against U.S. government arguments that the popular social media platform is not shielded by the First Amendment, comparing its platform to prominent American media organizations owned by foreign entities.

Last month, the Justice Department argued in a legal brief filed in a Washington federal appeals court that neither TikTok's China-based parent company,

ByteDance, nor the platform's global and U.S. arms — TikTok Ltd. and TikTok Inc. — were entitled to First Amendment protections because they are "foreign organizations operating abroad" or owned by one. TikTok attorneys have made the First Amendment a key part of their legal challenge to the federal law requiring ByteDance to sell TikTok to an approved buyer or face a ban.

On Thursday, they argued in a court document that TikTok's U.S. arm doesn't for-

feit its constitutional rights because it is owned by a foreign entity. They drew a parallel between TikTok and well-known news outlets such as Politico and Business Insider, both of which are owned by German publisher Axel Springer SE. They also cited Fortune, a business magazine owned by Thai businessman Chatchaval Jiaravanon.

"Surely the American companies that publish Politico, Fortune, and Business Insider do not lose First Amendment protection because they have foreign ownership," the TikTok attorneys wrote, arguing that "no precedent" supports what they called "the government's dramatic rewriting of what counts as protected speech."

In a redacted court filing made last month, the Justice Department argued ByteDance and TikTok haven't raised valid free

speech claims in their challenge against the law, saying the measure addresses national security concerns about TikTok's ownership without targeting protected speech.

The Biden administration and TikTok had held talks in recent years aimed at resolving the government's concerns. But the two sides failed to reach a deal. □



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WK 51 Ocean view \$65,000
WK 52 Ocean View \$65,000
WK 7 and 14 - all views

GOLD SEASON

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2 Bed Ocean view \$12,500
2 Bed Garden view \$10,000
3 Bed Ocean view \$28,000

Marriott Aruba Ocean Club PLATINUM SEASON

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1 Bed Ocean front \$21,000
1 Bed Ocean View \$17,000

GOLD SEASON

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Surinam	582 7896

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Artists who object to Trump using their songs from Celine Dion and Isaac Hayes' estate: How it works

BY MARIA SHERMAN

AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Pop powerhouses, American classics, British artists and the estates of deceased legends many musicians have objected to Donald Trump using their songs at campaign events.

After a video of Celine Dion performing her hit "My Heart Will Go On" was broadcast at a Trump campaign rally in Bozeman, Montana last weekend, the response from her team was swift.

"In no way is this use authorized, and Celine Dion does not endorse this or any similar use," a statement posted on social media read. "...And really, THAT song?"

Dion joins a long list of performers who've objected to Trump using their songs. Ahead of the 2020 election, that included Bruce Springsteen, Rihanna, Phil Collins, Pharrell, John Fogerty, Neil Young, Eddy Grant, Panic! at the Disco, R.E.M. and Guns N' Roses.

It also includes the estates of deceased performers, too, like Leonard Cohen, Tom Petty and Prince, as well as English acts from across the pond, like the Rolling Stones, the Beatles and Adele.

However, Trump has obtained the cosign from a



This combination of photos show, top row from left, Adele, Leonard Cohen, Phil Collins, John Fogerty and Tom Petty, bottom row from left, Pharrell, Prince, Rihanna, Bruce Springsteen and Neil Young.

Associated Press

few celebrity musicians, including Kid Rock and Lee Greenwood, known for his patriotic anthem, "God Bless the USA." Also heard at Trump's rally Thursday in Asheville, North Carolina: "Y.M.C.A." by the Village People.

Who has recently rebuked the use of their songs by the Trump campaign?

Since the 2020 election, several artists have objected to the use of their music at Trump rallies. The Smiths' "Please, Please, Please Let Me Get What I Want" played at a few Trump events, including a rally in

Rapid City, South Dakota last September and in January of this year at a rally in Laconia, New Hampshire. On X, the Smiths' guitarist Johnny Marr wrote, "Ahh...right...OK. I never in a million years would've thought this could come to pass. Consider this shut right down right now."

In 2022, David Porter, one of the songwriters behind Sam and Dave's "Hold On, I'm Coming," tweeted "Hell to the NO!" after learning Trump used the song at an NRA rally. (In 2017, it should be pointed out, Sam Moore of Sam and Dave

performed "America the Beautiful" at a pre-inauguration concert for Trump.)

Fast forward to Monday, when the son of the late soul singer Isaac Hayes, whose father co-wrote "Hold On, I'm Coming," announced on social media that he and his family have threatened legal action against Trump "for 134 counts copyright infringement for the unauthorized use of the song 'Hold On I'm Coming' at campaign rallies from 2022-2024."

Can artists legally object to their songs being used in political campaigns?

Yes, however, artists rarely have full control over where, when, and how their music is played. Performing rights organizations that represent most recognizable recorded music ASCAP and BMI require political campaigns to obtain licenses that allow them to use large troves of songs from their vast catalogs.

That means a political campaign does not have to do individual negotiations over every song used. If a political license is acquired, artists can object to its use, and the song is pulled from the license.

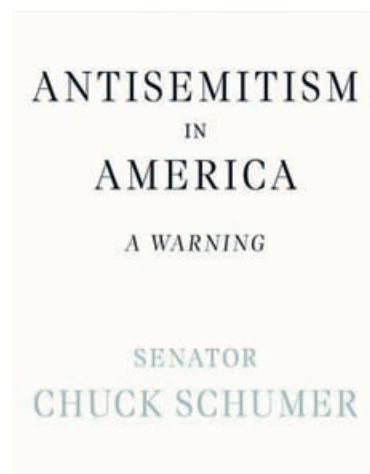
The issue, of course, is that not every campaign immediately honors those requests.

And it is important to note that these political licenses go beyond a public performance license, which allows venues to play copyrighted music.

What are some other examples of artists objecting to the use of their songs in campaigns?

Continuing with "Hold On, I'm Coming": In 2008, Moore asked former President Barack Obama, then still a candidate, to stop using the song. He didn't want it to be considered an endorsement. They complied. □

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's 'Antisemitism in America' to be published next winter



This combination of photos shows cover art for "Antisemitism in America: A Warning" by Sen. Chuck Schumer, left, and Schumer speaking at a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington on March 12, 2024.

Associated Press

By HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer will have a book out next winter that draws in part upon his own life and religious faith for what he calls a "warning" about antisemitism.

Grand Central Publishing, a division of Hachette Book Group, announced Wednesday that Schumer's "Antisemitism in America" will be released Feb. 18. The 73-year-old Schumer, a Democrat from New York, will trace his journey

from Brooklyn in the 1960s to Harvard in the '70s to his decades in Washington, including the Jan. 6 siege in 2021.

Schumer also will write about the recent wave of conspiracy theories about Jews and attacks against synagogues and Jewish students.

"If America fails to understand the context and history of antisemitism, if America's darker impulses ultimately overwhelm its better angels, an age-old truth will prove true once again: that antisemitism in-

evitably leads to violence against Jews and a rise in bigotry in our society at large.

Jewish Americans never thought it could happen here in America," he said in a statement.

"Now, for the first time, they're worried it could. As the Irish writer Conor Cruise O'Brien once said, 'antisemitism is a light sleeper.'" Schumer previously wrote, with Daniel Squadron, "Positively American: Winning Back the Middle Class One Family at a Time," which came out in 2007. □

Brandon Aiyuk and the 49ers need each other for a Super Bowl

By ROB MAADDI
AP Pro Football Writer

Matthew Judon wanted a new contract and ended up on a new team with a better chance of winning. Brandon Aiyuk isn't in a similar situation.

Aiyuk has been holding in with the San Francisco 49ers, waiting for a lucrative deal or a trade. If the star wide receiver goes somewhere else — the Steelers appear to be the top option — his chances of winning a Super Bowl decrease.

Judon, the four-time Pro Bowl edge rusher, was traded from New England to Atlanta on Wednesday. He went from a rebuilding team expected to finish last in the AFC East to a revamped Falcons squad that can win the NFC South. The 49ers came close to hoisting the Vince Lombardi trophy last season before losing to the Kansas City Chiefs in overtime. They're favorites to win the NFC, according to BetMGM Sportsbook.

So, going anywhere other than Kansas City is a downgrade for Aiyuk and the Chiefs aren't in position to



San Francisco 49ers wide receiver Brandon Aiyuk speaks to reporters during opening night festivities for the NFL football Super Bowl 58, in Las Vegas, Monday, Feb. 5, 2024.

Associated Press

make this type of blockbuster.

Aiyuk isn't the only big-time receiver mired in a contract dispute. All-Pro CeeDee Lamb is holding out from Dallas and Ja'Marr Chase is a hold-in with Cincinnati. The 49ers have an even more pressing contract stalemate. Three-time All-Pro left tackle Trent Williams

is holding out and they need him to protect Brock Purdy's blind side.

Overall, the 49ers are loaded with offensive talent led by All-Pro Christian McCaffrey and George Kittle and do-it-all wideout Deebo Samuel.

Still, Aiyuk is an integral part of a dynamic attack. The 2020 first-round pick has

thrived in San Francisco's offense since Purdy became the starting quarterback. He has eight 100-yard receiving games in 26 games catching passes from Purdy.

Aiyuk had three 100-yard receiving games in 45 games with other QBs. First-round pick Ricky Pearsall was drafted to poten-

tially replace Aiyuk, but he hasn't been able to stay healthy in training camp.

While Williams isn't going anywhere, Aiyuk's future in San Francisco is more uncertain. NFL Network reported this week that the 49ers and Steelers have agreed on compensation for a trade. The only thing holding up a deal is the fact general manager John Lynch, coach Kyle Shanahan and everyone else in San Francisco know the 49ers are a better team right now with Aiyuk.

"Brandon is a great player, so it's real hard to be better when you lose a great player," Shanahan said last week. "So we have to look into anything, we have to understand the situation we're in, what that looks like. And that does take time. So hopefully it'll all work out best for him and best for us in the long run."

Aiyuk is slated to earn \$14.1 million this season on his fifth-year option.

He's watched 10 receivers sign contracts worth at least \$70 million this off-season led by Justin Jefferson's four-year, \$140 million extension. □

Harbaugh says Kaepernick will not be a player or coach with the Chargers this season

By JOE REEDY
AP Sports Writer

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP) — If Colin Kaepernick wants to join the Los Angeles Chargers, it will not be until next year at the earliest.

And it will only be as a member of Jim Harbaugh's coaching staff.

"I love Colin, but he's not going to be on the coaching staff, which is set for this year. And he's not going to be playing on the roster either," Harbaugh said after Thursday's practice.

Harbaugh who coached Kaepernick in San Francisco from 2011 through '14 told USA Today Sports earlier this week that he reached out to Kaepernick about joining his Chargers' staff shortly after being named coach on Jan. 24. Harbaugh said on Thursday

that it wasn't the first time he has touched base with Kaepernick about coaching, and that he mentioned it a couple times when he was the coach at Michigan.

"I have thought that for a long time. Just the respect that I have for the football man that he is," said Harbaugh when asked what made him think Kaepernick would make a good coach. "(Late Raiders owner) Al Davis saw something in me that made him think I would be a good coach, and I see those same qualities in Colin. If it is something he chooses."

Kaepernick, who turns 37 on Nov. 3, has not played in an NFL game since Jan. 1, 2017, after he began kneeling on the sideline at

games during the national anthem to protest social injustice and police brutality. Kaepernick who played six seasons with San Francisco after being a second-round pick in 2011 still has hopes though of playing again. He told Britain's "Sky Sports News" during the recent Paris Olympics that he is still training.

"It's something I've trained my whole life for, so to be able to step back on the field, I think that would be a major moment, a major accomplishment for me," Kaepernick said. "I think I could bring a lot to a team and help them win a championship."

Kaepernick had a 29-16 record as a starter, including the playoffs, when Harbaugh was his coach. After Harbaugh left to go to

Michigan, Kaepernick's record was 3-17.

Kaepernick was the starting QB in Super Bowl 47 against Baltimore.

He was 16 of 28 for 302 yards with a touchdown and also ran for a score in

San Francisco's 34-31 loss.

Harbaugh has three players he coached in San Francisco on his Chargers staff NaVorro Bowman, Jonathan Goodwin and Will Tukuafu. □



Free agent quarterback Colin Kaepernick arrives for a workout for NFL football scouts and media in Riverdale, Ga., Nov. 16, 2019.

Associated Press

As college football evolves, so does the relationship between players and their CEO-like coaches

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer Ra'Shaad Samples was a reticent and newly appointed student-assistant, shagging balls at practice with a group of wide receivers who were recently his teammates, when he received one of his first important lessons about coaching.

"Ra'Shaad, you have to talk to coach," Samples recalls then-Houston coach Tom Herman yelling at him from across a practice field. The 29-year-old Samples has come a long way since. Now heading into his first season as running backs coach at No. 3 Oregon, he has made stops at Texas, SMU, TCU, the Los Angeles Rams where he was the youngest position coach in the NFL and Arizona State. This tumultuous and uncertain period of college football, with rules about player compensation and transfers seemingly changing every six months, has made more than a few coaches including Nick Saban question whether the job is really for them anymore.

For younger coaches like Samples the potential head coaches of the future evolution is everything. The 30-something head coaches Samples has worked for the Rams' Sean McVay, Arizona State's Kenny Dillingham and now Oregon's Dan Lanning have taught him: It's not about keeping up with trends, but being a



Oregon running backs football coach Ra'Shaad Samples works with the team during the Ducks' fall camp on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024, at the Hatfield-Dowlin Complex in Eugene, Ore.

Associated Press

trendsetter.

"I actually think about that all the time," Samples said. "I think the most important part of staying competitive in college football is fluidity and being able to change with the times."

In the past that meant being willing to try new offensive and defensive schemes, incorporating social media into a recruiting strategy or embracing fourth-down analytics.

Now, as college football becomes more like the pros, the fundamental relationship between player and coach is changing.

As is a program's organizational chart. Recruiting is

becoming more transactional and talent retention is as important if not more so than talent acquisition. College football head coaches have long been compared to CEOs of large companies, but as these operations grow the need to relinquish or delegate control increases but how much?

"Some coaches are way more hands on than others, but there are so many more hats (to wear) I think the quality of help that you have is really important in hiring good people and being excited and surprised with how they do their job," said the 38-year-old Lan-

ning, who is 22-5 in two seasons leading the Ducks. "But I also know that if it's important to me as a head coach, I better be involved in it in some way. And if I'm not, then it's probably not going to be to the standard."

Dollars and sense Since 2021, when the NCAA lifted its ban on athletes using their names, images and likenesses to earn money, millions of dollars have flowed to major college football players through booster-supported NIL collectives.

The next evolution of college sports is revenue-sharing with athletes.

"There's a business relationship that has to be had between players and coaches now that didn't exist," Samples said.

Dillingham, who at 34 is the youngest head coach in major college football, said money doesn't change everything.

Where a player decides to play is still often a decision made with parents and loved ones, weighing an assortment of factors that NFL players do not.

"So, it's how do you manage 18- to 22-year olds?" Dillingham said. "That'll never change regardless of how much money the kids make. May there be more obstacles with it? Yes."

Relationships still matter in recruiting, Lanning said.

"I think parents and players are protecting their best interests and not going to hurt themselves by going to a place, but they're certainly not picking just a place that gives them the best deal," Lanning said. "It's about the relationship to get a seat at the table."

Still, with players now able to switch schools easier than ever before, those connections need to be made more quickly to either attract transfers or to keep the players you have from leaving.

"We talk about how do you microwave the relationship process?" said Herman, who is in his second season as head coach at FAU. □



The United States soccer team players pose with their gold medals after the women's soccer gold medal match between Brazil and the United States at the Parc des Princes during the 2024 Summer Olympics, Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024, in Paris, France.

Associated Press

USWNT follows Olympic gold by reclaiming top spot in rankings after 12-month absence

ZURICH (AP) — The U.S. women's soccer team returned to the top of the FIFA world rankings Friday after winning gold last weekend at the Paris Olympics.

Mallory Swanson's goal helped secure the team its fifth Olympic gold medal and the first since the 2012 London Games by beating Brazil 1-0 in the final Saturday.

That lifted the Americans up from fifth and ended a 12-month absence from the top of the standings.

England moved up to second, ahead of Spain, Germany, Sweden and Canada.

Brazil climbed one spot to eighth.

The worst slide belonged to France, which dropped from second to 10th. The host nation had a poor performance in the group stage and was then eliminated by Brazil in the quarterfinals. It is the team's lowest position in nearly five years. □